



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

MAR 22 2006

Dear Colleague:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will celebrate National Women's Health Week (NWHW) during May 14-20, 2006, and its signature event, National Women's Check-Up Day, on May 15, 2006. The week is a national effort by an alliance of organizations to raise awareness about manageable steps that women can take every day to improve their health and to help underserved women gain access to important preventive healthcare services.

Last year, NWHW resulted in 1,175 health screening opportunities and events and 80 proclamations in all 50 states and some territories. Overall, 253 articles appeared in newspapers and magazines reaching a combined circulation of more than 18,757,000 readers. The CBS Early Show ran an extensive feature on the week for the third consecutive year.

This year, we want to sustain the impact of NWHW by maintaining the number of health screening opportunities and events. Your organization is invited to participate. You could sponsor a health fair, distribute health information, or partner with a local health provider to offer health screenings. Services could include blood pressure checks, Pap tests, mammograms, diabetes tests, HIV/AIDS tests, and other health screenings.

Any organization planning a women's health activity during the month of May is eligible to sign up as an event host for NWHW. Participation is free, and all participants may order free promotional and educational materials while supplies last. You will find more information on registering your event and ordering materials for National Women's Health Week at www.womenshealth.gov/whw.

Your organization's ability to reach and engage diverse populations is important to your success. Thank you for your interest and your commitment to addressing life issues that improve the health of women.

Sincerely,


Julie Louise Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director